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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/053,211 | 01/15/2002 | Kilian Peetz | GK-GRA-103 / 500704,20003 | 4397 |
| 26418 | 7590 | 12/15/2003 | | |
| REED SMITH, LLP ATTN: PATENT RECORDS DEPARTMENT 599 LEXINGTON AVENUE, 29TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10022-7650 | | | EXAMINER FULLER, ERIC B | |
| | | | ART UNIT 1762 | PAPER NUMBER |

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/053,211 | Applicant(s) PEETZ ET AL. |
| | Examiner Eric B Fuller | Art Unit 1762 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 April 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The incorporation of essential material in the specification by reference to a foreign application or patent, or to a publication is improper. Applicant is required to amend the disclosure to include the material incorporated by reference. The amendment must be accompanied by an affidavit or declaration executed by the applicant, or a practitioner representing the applicant, stating that the amendatory material consists of the same material incorporated by reference in the referencing application. See *In re Hawkins*, 486 F.2d 569, 179 USPQ 157 (CCPA 1973); *In re Hawkins*, 486 F.2d 579, 179 USPQ 163 (CCPA 1973); and *In re Hawkins*, 486 F.2d 577, 179 USPQ 167 (CCPA 1973).

Claim Observations and Interpretations

Claims 5 and 8 are confusing. They both read that a parameter of a certain value is adjusted. It is not understood if this is to mean that the parameter is adjusted from this original value or if the parameter is adjusted to be this value. For examination purposes, it is assumed that the applicant is adjusting the parameters to be these values.

In claims 6 and 7, "the fiber scrims" lacks antecedent basis. It is assumed for examination purposes that the fiber scrims are part of the preform substrate. Additionally, "the gas feed", also lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is not understood what the two numbers in "0°/90° laying angle" means. The specification fails to make light of what is meant by this and accordingly the metes and bounds of the claim are confusing. Is the laying angle between 0 and 90 degrees? Or is the laying angle simply 90 degrees with the first layer designated as 0 degrees?

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9, 13, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hüttinger et al. (WO 98/21163).

Hüttinger teaches a CVI process for depositing SiC into a preform (abstract). The precursor is taught on page 7, lines 6-30. The carrier gas, hydrogen or hydrogen chloride, is taught to be within the applicant's range (page 15, lines 15-29). Also on

page 15, line 15, it is taught that the temperature range is 900 – 1,100 degrees Celsius, which reads on the applicant's claim of greater than or equal to 1,100 degrees. The reference discloses pressures within the applicants range (Embodiment 3 and 8). The porosity is within the applicant's range (figure 5; page 5, lines 30-34). Figure 4 teaches the preconditioning step. The product of the reference reads on claims 13 and 14.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hüttinger et al. (WO 98/21163), as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Murphy et al. (US 4,407,885).

Hüttinger teaches the limitations of claim 1, as shown above, but is silent in teaching how the preform is made. However, Murphey teaches a method of forming preforms that read on the applicant's method (column 13, lines 18-50). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use the method taught by Murphy to construct the preforms in the process taught by Hüttinger. By doing so, one would have a reasonable expectation of success, as Hüttinger is silent to how the preform is produced and Murphy teaches how this is done.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Linn et al. (US 6,143,376) is cited for teaching the process conditions claimed by the applicant for coating a single fiber. Additionally, Mason (US 5,382,453) is cited as being pertinent to the applicant's disclosure. Hüttinger et al. (US 6,197,374 B1) is cited as the English equivalent of the above-mentioned WO publication.

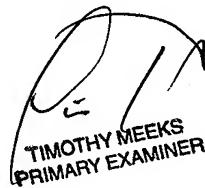
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric B Fuller whose telephone number is (703) 308-6544. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shrive Beck, can be reached at (703) 308-2333. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703 872-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



EBF



TIMOTHY MEEKS
PRIMARY EXAMINER